ONTARIO PROVINCIAL POLICE

Provincial Operations Intelligence Bureau

REVIEW of HENDON REPORTS

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2022-01-13

- (Page 1) Individuals within the Patriot Movement have undertaken to organize through closed communication channels and in-person networking toward large scale protest actions. One of these actions includes a commercial truck work stoppage and highway slowdown scheduled for January 23, 2022. Information shared through social media networks indicates some of the participants of this action may be mobilizing from across the country to arrive in Ottawa for a mass anti-government protest calling for an end to all COVID-19 mandates.
- (Page 1-2) organizing underway by members of the Patriot Movement who have taken to social media advising 'truckers' plan to carry out their intended work stoppage and revealed that as part of their hold back messaging, was the additional objective of staging a mass convoy to Ottawa. While the reversal has been characterized as a win owed to their resistance efforts, leadership figures claim their convoy action had been organized to reverse 'all mandates' relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- PAGE 2: Currently, details remain scant and the overall situation fluid.
- PAGE 2: The goal is to disrupt and further strain the 'already fragile supply chain'; while a larger objective, that of staging a mass protest in Ottawa, is to 'put the fear of God in the politicians' and bring about an end to all COVID-19 public health measures. Online content has included overt and nuanced references to using force; although, spokespersons have indicated the use of violence has not been part of their planning. More information is anticipated to be shared January 14, 2022. Currently, there is no credible intelligence to suggest an armed insurgence is imminent. POIB continues to monitor and liaise with stakeholders.
- PAGE 2: Speeches and online content have included references that convey a willingness to engage in actions that go beyond what is peaceful and lawful; however, means and methods are not provided in these addresses.
- ASSESSMENT PAGE 5: The information coming out through social media pertaining to a nationwide campaign of 'truckers' to stage a work-stoppage, highway slow-down and convoy to

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Ottawa appears to have benefited from semi-clandestine organizing that had been underway for some time. This supports earlier assessments where it was believed adherents of the Patriot Movement network through a variety of means that includes in-person meetings. The tone of speeches and online content emanating from leadership figures and adherents alike suggests there is a growing frustration by the overall lack of success in effecting governmental change.

- ASSESSMENT PAGE 5: the establishment and planning alone signals the seriousness, level of dedication, and resources some adherents of the Patriot Movement possess toward creating a sovereign existence. Aside from this, the emerging trend to form larger alliance groups (in some instances casting aside differences) appears to hold a connection to the organizing efforts of MPP Randy HILLIER; and the Pastor from the Church of God, Aylmer, each of whom possess considerable influence within the Patriot movement as a whole. Historically, events that have been organized or endorsed by the duo have mobilized large participant numbers in several areas of the province, most notably to Toronto and Ottawa.
- ASSESSMENT PAGE 6: Actions have become more disruptive involving the blocking of intersections and in other instances the behaviour of demonstrators has become aggressive and agitating that has required the intervention of police to deescalate tensions.
- ASSESSMENT PAGE 6: Equally concerning for law enforcement is the threat posed by public order events where some leadership figures, including politicians, have the ability to incite or inspire participants to breach barriers. Tactics appear to be evolving to include elements of civil disobedience, intimidation, and harassment.
- ASSESSMENT PAGE 6: While the freedom of peaceful assembly is protected by the Charter, and where some anti-lockdown / anti-mask participants may have been prompted to join protest movements motivated by a perception of government overreach and erosion of civil-liberties – the individuals who are now partaking appear to be following leadership figures who strongly advance anti-government sentiments, rely on pseudo-legal ideals, and promote wide-spread conspiracy theories. These theories notably take in COVID-19 denialism, "plandemic" phraseology, and elements of QAnon rhetoric.
- ASSESSMENT PAGE 6: It is also believed adherents participate in closed communication channels where high-level organizing may be taking place through in-person meetings held in private settings. These groups are noted to be scattered across the Province and are accessed through online forums, word of mouth, and invites following public events. Private social media platforms also appear to be facilitating/supporting a high level of organizing.
- ANTICIPATED EVENTS PAGE 8:

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- January 23, 2022 – Nationwide Campaign – "Truckers Slow Roll Across Canada" ***No specific starting locations*** Unconfirmed information suggests participants will be mobilizing from BC, AB, ON and the maritime provinces toward Ottawa Parliament Hill as a destination. No timelines have been shared. More information is anticipated January 14, 2022.

2022-01-20

- PAGE 1 Intro: The purpose of this report is to provide an intelligence update regarding the FREEDOM CONVOY 2022 and OPERATION BEARHUG, a series of Canada-wide slow-rolling protests scheduled for 2022-01-22 to 2022-01-29.
- KEY INFORMATION Bullet POINTS 1 and 2:
  - The FREEDOM CONVOY 2022 and OPERATION BEARHUG will almost certainly disrupt the movement of vehicular traffic and goods on Canadian highways and, possibly, at ports of entry along the border with the United States.
  - Some participants in these convoys may attempt to disrupt the business of government at both the provincial and federal level by blocking access to government legislatures and Parliament.
- PAGE 1: The vaccination requirement has been met with opposition resulting in the organization of slow-rolling blockades on major Canadian highways, including at or near border points, designated as "FREEDOM CONVOY 2022" and "OPERATION BEARHUG".
- PAGE 1: The intent of these actions is to impede the movement of traffic and goods in Canada and, possibly, to disrupt the business of government at the provincial and federal levels, in order to compel the Canadian government to lift all COVID-19-related mandates and restrictions.
- PAGE 2: The available information indicates that a series of slow-rolling protests are planned from British Columbia to Nova Scotia from 2022-01-22 to 2022-01-29, when most of the convoy is scheduled to arrive in Ottawa.
- PAGE 2: Open source research has identified a Facebook page titled "Freedom Convoy 2022". As of 2022-01-19, the page had received 20,594 "likes" and was being followed by 24,873 people. All of the comments on this Facebook page expressed support for this event.
- PAGE 2: The Facebook page notes that the purpose of the convoy is to compel the federal government to rescind the vaccine requirement for tractor-trailer drivers. Entries on the page encourage people to join the convoy in their own vehicles. They also indicate that the organizers

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expect hundreds of thousands of vehicles to participate in the convoy. However, at least one social media post indicates that 36,000 trucks will participate.

- PAGE 2: some organizers are promoting the event as a safe, lawful, and peaceful protest, other individuals appear to be advocating aggressive tactics, including potentially blocking Parliament once they reach Ottawa or "locking down" government buildings by parking their trucks outside provincial government buildings for extended periods of time. Open source research has identified some social media posts that indicate that the convoy will surround and block access to the City of Ottawa and to Parliament until the federal government lifts all COVID-19-related mandates and restrictions.
- PAGE 3: there does not yet appear to be an exit strategy for departing Ottawa: the intent appears to be to remain in Ottawa until all COVID-19-related mandates and restrictions are lifted.
- PAGE 3: A GoFundMe page created on 2022-01-15 to solicit and process financial donations to support convoy participants had raised almost $412,000 by the morning of 2022-01-19, or more than $100,000 daily. The stated goal was to raise $500,000. A review of this page on 2022-01-20 at 0800 hours indicated that the fundraising goal had been changed to $700,000. Of this, almost $571,000 had been raised, an increase of more than $100,000 within 24 hours.
- ASSESSMENT Page 3: The noted convoys will almost certainly disrupt the movement of vehicular traffic and goods in Ontario and strain the capacity of law enforcement in the province. Supporters of the initiative may impede vehicular traffic at the local level.
- ASSESSMENT Page 3: It is also possible that some participants of the convoys may attempt to disrupt the workings of government at both the provincial and federal levels.
- ASSESSMENT Page 3: The large number of groups that are publicly giving online support to this initiative; the large number of people "liking" or following the FREEDOM CONVOY 2022 Facebook page; and the amount of funds raised in the space of four days, suggests that the convoys have support with some Canadians.
- ASSESSMENT Page 4: The available information suggests that the convoys may comprise thousands of tractor-trailers. It is possible that a large number of smaller vehicles, including private vehicles, may join them.
- ASSESSMENT Page 4: **the success of the fundraising initiative indicates that many people are not just ideologically invested, but are also financially invested. This suggests that these convoys could see a greater proportion of the online support translate into real-life support than might otherwise be expected.**

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- ASSESSMENT Page 4: Despite the information indicating that some organizers are aiming for a lawful and peaceful event, the possibility that a lone actor or small groups of individuals may decide to engage in, or encourage, direct action or unlawful activity that presents a public safety threat cannot be excluded.
- ASSESSMENT Page 4In addition to the convoys themselves, police of jurisdiction resources could be stretched if rallies are organized at the local level to coincide with the arrival of the convoys in a given community.
- ASSESSMENT Page 4: **Although the stated intent of some convoy participants is to remain at Parliament Hill until the government rescinds all COVID-19-related restrictions and mandates, this goal is likely to prove unrealistic in the long term. However, even a small number of tractor trailers parked at Parliament Hill will almost certainly be disruptive in the short term.**
- **Specific Itineraries provided on convoys to Ottawa in APPENDIX.**

2022-01-22 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

- Some online messaging is advocating for Freedom Convoy participants to attend the homes of Liberal Party members in Ottawa, the Prime Minister's residence on Sussex Drive, and his summer residence in Harrington Lake (Gatineau).
- The GO FUND ME supporting the Freedom Convoys has raised $1.5 million (2022-01-22 1430).
- A separate fundraiser ("ADOPT A TRUCKER") on the crowdfunding site "GiveSendGo.com" has raised $11,200 (2022-01-22 1430).
- A Facebook Event page for the Freedom Convoy event at Parliament Hill on 2022-01-29 indicates that 247 individuals are "Going" and 492 are "Interested" (2022-01-22 1447 hours).
- All communication from national organizers will be delivered through Road Captains who are to establish communication networks within their own groups. FREEDOM CONVOY participants have been advised to download the "ZELLO" app, allowing for communications via cell phone mimicking two-way radio.
- Delivery of fuel through Federated Co-Op has been arranged for Regina and Winnipeg; refueling will occur roadside via slow-roll pit stop. Estimated costs are between $170,000 and $250,000 per refueling stop, paid directly from the Go Fund Me page.
- Organizers in Ottawa are referred to as the "War Room".
- Port-a-potties, fencing, and security has been arranged for Ottawa.

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- National organizer from Alberta will be travelling with a command post, media and security detail.
- Organizers have been liaising with law enforcement in Regina, Saskatchewan (RCMP); Winnipeg, Manitoba, and OPP in Ontario.
- **One organizer has claimed that 1 million individuals and 10,000 trucks will attend Ottawa.**
- **One social media influencer alleges that 36,000 trucks will attend Ottawa.**
- Convoys are to depart BC on 2022-01-22 and Alberta on 2022-01-23.

2022-01-23 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

- Open source research has social media posts claiming that the Liberal Party is attempting to have GoFundMe cancel the fundraiser supporting the Freedom Convoy and attempting to label the convoy as violent. A social media video has also been identified that echoes this message. The author notes that the Convoy will be peaceful. Another social media post encourages using the funds raised to buy fuel before the Prime Minister blocks it.
- The GoFundMe account supporting the Freedom Convoy has raised just over $2.4 million (2022-01-23 1412 hours).
- A separate fundraiser ("ADOPT A TRUCKER") on the crowdfunding site "GiveSendGo.com" has raised $14,083 (2022-01-23 1419 hours).
- A Facebook Event page for the Freedom Convoy event at Parliament Hill on 2022-01-29 indicates that 536 individuals are "Going" and 1300 are "Interested" (2022-01-23 1414 hours).
- Online messages and videos have been identified in which supporters of the Freedom Convoy express anger towards elected officials, mainly directed at Prime Minister TRUDEAU. It is possible that local political figures and, possibly, health officials in Ottawa could also be targeted.
- We assess that the commercial truck drivers participating in the Freedom Convoy are likely to be generally supportive of holding a lawful protest. However, convoy supporters may include individuals representing ideological movements who may view the protest as an opportunity to advance their own causes or beliefs. Some of these individuals may engage in activities that are not sanctioned or supported by convoy organizers in order to achieve their own objectives. The post on the RISE UP DURHAM website referencing Ottawa being "wild", which echoes the language used by former US President Donald TRUMP prior to the 2021 attack on the US Capitol, tends to support this hypothesis. If accurate, then this assessment

could indicate the possibility for conflict between a larger group comprising commercial truck drivers and a smaller group of ideologically-driven opportunists.

- Part of the convoy is scheduled to arrive in Ottawa on 2022-01-28. Based on a stated departure time of 0830 hours from Kingston, this group may arrive as early as mid-morning.
- Drivers may overnight in their trucks at Ontario truck stops along the way.
- **Organizers in Ottawa are referred to as the "War Room".**
- Port-a-potties, fencing, and security have been arranged for Ottawa.
- National organizer from Alberta will be travelling with a command post, media and security detail.
- **One organizer has claimed that 1 million individuals and 10,000 trucks will attend Ottawa.**

2022-01-24 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

- He also indicates that convoy participants are calling for supporters to stage local slow rolls or blockades targeting local media and government facilities.
- Open source research has identified a social media message from an individual who claims to be a police officer giving support to the Freedom Convoy. The author claims that many other police officers also support the convoy.
- The GoFundMe account supporting the Freedom Convoy has raised $3.1 million (2022-01-24 0906 hours).
- Organizers have established a second e-transfer venue for financial donations (tbof@protonmail.com).
- A separate fundraiser ("ADOPT A TRUCKER") on the crowdfunding site "GiveSendGo.com" has raised $21,896 (2022-01-24 0907 hours).
- One organizer has advised that the convoy in Alberta comprises 400 tractor trailers and approximately 1000 other vehicles. He has also advised that approximately 300 tractor trailers and an unknown number of other vehicles will join the convoy in Calgary.
- A message on the Twitter page for THE LINE CANADA is calling for a "bridge protest" in support of the Freedom Convoy for 2022-01-27 starting at 1230 hours. The comment states that the convoy is expected to traverse Durham Region at approximately 1300 hours. The post calls for supporters to attend bridges at the following locations: Albert Street and

Simcoe Street (Oshawa); Thickson Street and Brock Street (Whitby); Harwood Avenue (Ajax); and Brock Road (Pickering).

2022-01-25 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

- Assessment: Open source monitoring has identified online rhetoric advocating violence or implying the use of violence. Online misinformation or disinformation about potential police responses to the convoy will likely feed the narrative that the police wish to stop the convoy with the use of delay tactics or roadblocks
- **This Information is in relation to an advanced party (leg of convoy) that arrived in Ottawa ahead of the main convoys – it refers to gaps in relation to plans slated for January 28th and 29th. This was unusual as they had been fairly open up to that point – it was discussed on HENDON calls as an Intelligence Gap: The lack of information relayed to the OPP about events in Ottawa during the period from 2022-01-28 to 2022-01-29 and on 2022-01-30 represents a serious intelligence gap. Information provided to the OPP to date indicates a high degree of planning for the protest, and communications appear to have been open between the OPP and convoy organizers. It is unknown why the details for these time frames would not be shared with police: attempts should be made to obtain this information.**

OFFICER SAFETY BULLETIN 2022-01-26

- **Freedom Convoy 2022, destined for Parliament Hill, Ottawa on or about January 29, 2022. The Freedom Convoy 2022 is a nationally organized protest action that seeks to stage a gridlock of the Parliament area until the Federal government agrees to repeal all COVID-19 public health restrictions and mandates. Leadership figures of the group have stated an intent to occupy the Ottawa area until their demands are met.**

SITUATION AWARENESS BULLETIN 2022-01-26

- **Once in Ottawa, Freedom Convoy 2022 organizers have stated an intent to remain at Parliament Hill until the Federal government concedes to repeal all COVID-19 public health restrictions and mandates. Organizers have indicated they are planning to stage**

disruptions that may gridlock areas around Parliament buildings and parts of Ottawa. There is no expressed departure date for when participants will disperse or the action will end.

2022-01-26 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

1. The Ottawa Police Service has advised that they have received a telephone call in which an unknown male threatened to shoot any police officer in the head if they attempted to block him; that he would drive his truck into an Ottawa Police Service station; and that "they" would target three police stations. The reporting indicates that the male did not specify a motive, but that he was upset about the truck convoy. The available information does not indicate whether he supported or opposed the convoy. (**RELIABLE**)

2. Project HENDON has received information indicating that [redacted] (a.k.a. "RAGING DISSIDENT") may attend the Freedom Convoy in Ottawa. [redacted] is reported to hold anti-government ideology and to have made veiled threats against the Prime Minister in the past. The RCMP has advised that [redacted] has been arrested for firearms offences and that firearms and accessories were seized. He will likely be released on a Promise to Appear with no travel restrictions. (**RELIABLE**)
3. On 2022-01-25, the OPP received a complaint indicating that [redacted] had posted a video online showing him loading a gun; that he was posting images of weapons that he owns; and that he might travel to Ottawa to attend the protest. The complainant described [redacted]' vehicle as a dark pick-up truck with a heavy-duty grill on the front and a large sticker with the word "FREEDOM" across the cab. [1] **(UNKNOWN RELIABILITY)**
    a. ***Analytical Comment:*** *We believe that this vehicle may be a support vehicle for the convoy. Online videos of the convoy in Manitoba on 2022-01-25 shows this vehicle, acting at the direction of* [redacted]*, blocking an intersection so that the convoy can turn. At one point, the male driver exits the vehicle and, upon seeing a transport truck hauling a piece of heavy equipment, the male driver of this vehicle suggests that the equipment could be used to remove roadblocks. It is unknown whether* [redacted] *is the driver.*

[1] OPP occurrence E220084931

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Project HENDON subsequently received two images alleged to be of [redacted] (***source unknown***). In one image he is wearing two handguns and posing with what appears to be an automatic weapon; in the second, which appears to be a still from a video, he is sitting at a table apparently loading a handgun. The latter image is captioned "The Revolution has STARTED".

Open source research identified a Facebook page in the name of [redacted] that includes pro-Freedom Convoy and anti-government messages and images, including an image of Prime Minister Trudeau apparently being run down by a transport truck (*previously reported on 2021-01-22*).

A CTV report on the Freedom Convoy includes a clip where four males identified as "Canadian Bigots" discuss the convoy, and indicate that they might attend in Ottawa. One, identified as "RANTS", states that "we" should have "our own January 6 event" and that he would like to see some of the trucks "plow right through that 16-foot wall". He is quick to follow up stating that they would not actually do this, but he would like to see it. [2] According to the CANADIAN ANTI HATE NETWORK, members of the DIAGOLON network use the label "bigots" sarcastically to refer to themselves. A DIAGOLON flag is visible behind one of the males.

A review of the FREEDOM CONVOY GoFundMe page on 2022-01-26 at 2017 hours indicates that "[redacted]" has joined the page as an organizer along with [redacted]. This appears to have occurred since 1140 hours on 2022-01-26, when the GoFundMe page was captured for the daily situation report. A quote attributed to him on the CANADIAN ANTI-HATE NETWORK's Twitter page indicates that he espouses Islamophobic ideology.

ASSESSMENT:

The potential presence of individuals who espouse fringe ideologies and have access to weapons in the convoy and at the protest in Ottawa could increase the threat level to public figures, property, the public, and law enforcement during this event. Disinformation and misinformation on the internet poses a potential threat to public figures and an officer safety threat. Erroneous or provocative comments online continue to fuel conspiracy theories with regard to the government's view of the convoy and could increase the level of any antagonism that some convoy participants and supporters may hold toward public officials and law enforcement. It is possible that further threats to police may be made.

[2] OPP HENDON OS Capture 61.3 – CTV Video

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2022-01-27 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

1. Police reporting indicates that large numbers of supporters have attended along the convoy route and at truck stops where the convoy has stopped for fuel or breaks. OPP reporting indicates that, in some places, large numbers of supporters are parked on the side of the highway. **(RELIABLE)**

2. Supporters in Ontario have been observed providing food and cash to convoy drivers. **(RELIABLE)**

3. Open source research has confirmed that the West Convoy (currently travelling from Thunder Bay to Sault Ste. Marie) is transporting at least two pieces of heavy equipment. **(RELIABLE)**

4. Open source research identified direction to convoy participants to download and utilize the ZELLO mobile application, which allows for communications via cell phones mimicking two-way radio communication (*Project HENDON PM SITREP dated 2022-01-22*). Ongoing reporting indicates that convoy drivers are, in fact, utilizing this mobile application. **(RELIABLE)**

5. In a media interview, a convoy supporter is recorded directly advocating civil war and stating that "if people don't want to stand up, we've got guns" and "we'll bring 'em out." The interview is noted as being in Saskatoon. **The likelihood that anyone with these beliefs to move from words to action is unknown.** **(RELIABLE)**

Assessment 2022-01-26:

It is highly unlikely that heavy machinery would be transported in the convoy if there was no intent to use it, or if some individuals in the convoy did not anticipate that it would be needed. Such equipment could be used to facilitate or secure access to strategic operational positions in Ottawa. The presence of this equipment in the convoy may indicate that some convoy participants intend to reinforce positions for long-term occupation in Ottawa; to block access to strategic locations; to damage property; to render roadways impassable; or to intimidate the public, government, and law enforcement.

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Although convoy organizers and participants have repeatedly stated the intention to conduct a lawful protest and a desire to cooperate with police, they are unlikely to have the ability to control, influence, or discipline these fringe elements.

The convoys include tractor-trailer combinations: it is possible that they may contain additional pieces of equipment, vehicles, or other items, such as food, water, heaters, generators, fuel, etc. that could support an extended stay in Ottawa. However, this remains unconfirmed.

2022-01-28 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

Police observation has identified what may be a large air compressor being transported on a flat-bed trailer in the convoy.

Open source research has identified a YouTube channel that appears to be live-streaming police communications (Belleville PS; Ottawa PS; and the OPP) regarding the location and movement of the various convoys.

In a video posted on the CANADA UNITY Facebook page, [redacted] who is driving in the convoy, indicates that OPERATION BEARHUG was intended to "bring the law to Ottawa" and that they will not leave the city until the law has been restored and they get their lawful freedom back. […]He further references a Memorandum of Understanding that has been prepared, that, once signed, will result in Prime Minister TRUDEAU, Erin O'TOOLE and the "NDP leader" stepping down.

Open source research has captured a still image of a flatbed tractor-trailer carrying a pick-up truck and a smaller piece of equipment, possibly a construction light tower, posted on a Facebook page called CONVOY TO OTTAWA 2022 RESTART on 2022-01-27. Open source research also captured an image of another flat-bed truck carrying another pick-up truck and portable toilets, as well as what may be an excavator being transported by a truck in the convoy. This is the third piece of heavy equipment observed in the convoy.

Media reporting has cited a convoy organizer stating that farmers were bringing bulldozers to remove snow and make room for the transport trucks to park. The location was not stated, but it is inferred that she was referring to Ottawa.

1. Open source research has also identified a image of what appears to be a large all-terrain vehicle being hauled in the convoy.

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Open source research has identified social media messaging encouraging convoy participants to remain peaceful and not carry anything that might be construed as a weapon. The author also suggests that paid actors may attend the protest and cause problems for which convoy participants will be blamed, just as members of the PROUD BOYS were after the January 2021 insurrection at the US Capitol Building. The author further notes that police will not stop a riot if one begins, and participants should restrain individuals who are misbehaving as long as neither party gets hurt.

Open source research identified a CBC interview of two individuals in the convoy: they advised that they wanted to take their country back, and one was wearing a yellow star patch on his jacket reminiscent of the one that Jews were forced to wear under Germany's Nazi regime.

1. Some responses to a Tweet on the OPP's Twitter page regarding the closure of part of Highway #17 due to poor weather on 2022-01-27 express cynicism, anger, and claim that the weather was fine and that this was merely an excuse to delay or halt the convoy. Similar narratives were identified on other social media sites. **(UNRELIABLE)**

2. Regarding the same road closure noted in paragraph 13, another social media user posted a video with a caption indicating that the government had closed the road and that the convoy might be stopped. One individual suggested blocking all of the routes, including rail lines, as that would result in the roads being re-opened. **(UNRELIABLE)**

3. In addition to using the ZELLO mobile application to communicate, open source research has yielded information to suggest that some convoy participants may also be using SIGNAL. **(UNKNOWN)**

Media reporting indicates that protest organizers have arranged for scheduled events every day until they receive a response from the government to their demands. The reporting indicates that a stage will be set up in a park on 2022-01-31 and politicians, truck drivers, and Indigenous elders will be speaking. The reporting also indicates that the convoy is scheduled to remain in Ottawa for a week, but will stay longer if COVID-19 vaccine mandates are not lifted.

Assessment:

The available information indicates that the protestors plan to remain in Ottawa at least until 2022-02-04. We continue to identify indicators to support at least some protestors remaining beyond the weekend of 2022-01-29/30. These indicators include collecting donations of cash, food, and water from supporters along the route.

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The reason for the convoys transporting the noted pieces of heavy equipment is unknown and represents an intelligence gap.

We continue to assess that fringe elements amongst the convoy participants and supporters likely represent the greatest potential threat to public order and safety posed by the Freedom Convoy/Operation BearHug 2.0 protest. The apparent hesitance to discuss plans for Ottawa and the behaviour of the participants of the East Convoy indicate a degree of security awareness and security culture amongst some groups or individuals who plan to attend the protest in Ottawa, as does the potential use of SIGNAL.

While [redacted] claims that the convoy participants and supporters are prioritizing safety and do not intend to inconvenience the public, some social media users appear to be encouraging illegal acts, including blocking hospitals. The angry reaction to this suggestion on social media suggests that there is a potential for conflict amongst protest attendees.

Misinformation and disinformation continues to feed distrust of the government and the police, which may result in defiance towards law enforcement in Ottawa or a disregard for the law and public order. It is likely that some protest participants will believe the "false flag" narrative of paid actors at the protest, and this may provoke conflict amongst protest attendees, particularly if any attempts are made by protestors to restrain or apprehend other protestors. Any such incident has the potential to escalate and could require a police response.

2022-01-29 SPECIFIC HENDON REPORTS Freedom Convoy/Bearhug 2.0

Open source has identified social media messaging in the name of ACTION4CANADA_OTTAWA_REGION asking for urgent donations to raise $50,000 to pay for a public address system, lights, soundman, and stage for use by the protestors at Parliament Hill. The post indicates that this amount will cover these costs for the next three days. The post further notes that the GOFUNDME account for the Freedom Convoy is still frozen. Potential donors are asked to go to "givesendgo.com/Warroomcanadanet".

(Organizers) provided no indication of any plans beyond 2022-01-31.

They also stated that they are watching for "infiltrators" and that they have undercover security and a volunteer security force who will surround and remove any troublemakers from the site.

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Open source research has identified social media messaging advocating for Freedom Convoy/Operation BearHug 2.0 protestors to block parking lots at the headquarters of CBC, CTV and Global News to force them to start reporting the truth.

Assessment:

The protest in Ottawa has the potential to pose a real public safety and officer safety threat. It is possible that spontaneous actions may develop organically, and evolve and be executed rapidly with no advance preparation or planning over the course of the protest in Ottawa. The available information suggests that the protestors have scheduled events in Ottawa at least through Monday, 2022-01-31. There is no indication of any plans after Monday, although previous information indicated they would remain for one week.

Spontaneous actions by the protestors will likely pose a challenge for ensuring public safety: spontaneous events may be more likely to push or break the limits of lawful behaviour, and may be more emotionally driven, than pre-planned and well organized protests. Further, it is highly unlikely that law enforcement on site will be able to mitigate or prevent any such actions, but will only be able to respond, which could escalate any extant animosity toward authority on the part of protestors.

As such, spontaneous events that might occur could pose both a public safety and an officer safety threat.

Conflicting information about the status of the GOFUNDME account could cause internal conflict amongst protestors, and will likely feed the narrative that the government is attempting to silence them. This could result in spontaneous protests that could include violence. Federal government assets in Ottawa present likely targets for any such protests.